

## AMENDED CLAIMS

[ received by the International Bureau on 09  
September 2003 (09.09-03); original claims 1-7  
replaced by amended claims 1-3 (1 page) ]

[What is Claimed is]

1. (Amended) Immunoglobulin A polypeptide for  
diagnosing Diabetic retinopathy wherein said polypeptide is  
5 selected from the group consisting of a polypeptide sequence  
SEQ ID NO: 1 and a peptide fragment of the polypeptide  
sequence SEQ ID NO:1.
2. (Amended) The protein of claim 1 wherein the  
10 peptide fragment comprises peptide sequence SEQ ID NO: 2.
3. (Deleted).
4. (Deleted).
- 15 5. (Deleted).
6. (Amended) A method for diagnosing diabetic  
retinopathy, comprising:
  - 20 a) treating the antibody against polypeptide of claim  
1 or 2 with a blood sample and an peroxidase, alkaline  
phosphatase or biotin conjugated-anti-Immunoglobulin A  
protein; and
  - b) measuring optical density of the compound,  
25 wherein diabetic retinopathy is diagnosed when the  
measured value represents optical density (ELISA value)  
lower than normal one.
7. (Deleted).

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